

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

BERNASCONI ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: TO BE ASSIGNED

FILED: TO BE ASSIGNED

FOR: NEW USE OF LIGANDS TO GABA_B RECEPTORS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please insert the following as the first paragraph beneath the title on page 1:

--This is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/EP00/02605, filed March 23, 2000, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.--.

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 7 as follows:

7. (Amended) The use according to claim 1 for increasing NGF and BDNF.

Please add the following claims:

--12. The use according to claim 2 for increasing NGF and BDNF.--.

--13. The use according to claim 3 for increasing NGF and BDNF.--.

--14. The use according to claim 4 for increasing NGF and BDNF.--.

--15. The use according to claim 5 for increasing NGF and BDNF.--.

TO BE ASSIGNED

--16. The use according to claim 6 for increasing NGF and BDNF.--.

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendment to the specification, a cross-reference has been inserted beneath the title on Page 1.

Claim 7 has been amended to eliminate its multiple dependency.

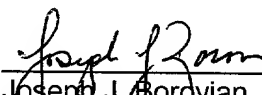
New Claims 12-16 are directed to the subject matter excised from Claim 7.

Attached hereto is a "marked-up" version of the change made to Claim 7 by the foregoing amendment.

Early and favorable consideration of the claims is respectfully awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Patent and Trademark Dept.
564 Morris Avenue
Summit, NJ 07901-1027
(908) 522-6921



Joseph J. Borqvian
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 26,631

Date: September 18, 2001

Encl.: "Marked-up" version of the
change made to Claim 7

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claim 7 has been amended as follows:

7. The use according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 for increasing NGF and BDNF.